

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Pentecost 14
Sunday, September 3, 2023

623-224-8839 ♦ www.crossofglory.org

1011 W Jomax Road
Peoria, AZ 85383

Sunday 9am Worship

Pastor Paul Mueller
Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

WELCOME to our worship center

Blessed to be a member of



God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament. As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power will fill you.

Growing in Faith — Living in Grace — Sharing His Glory

ABOUT US

The continuing purpose of this congregation, as a gathering of Christians, is to spread to all people in God's world the glory of the cross of Christ, by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.

Today's Worship Focus

FEAR

SAYS

'I feel so betrayed.'

FAITH

SAYS

'God will never leave me.'

Pastor Mueller ends today a series titled "Fear says... Faith says..." What drives your life more, Fear or Faith? We'll see how God directed believers to follow faith, so we can too.

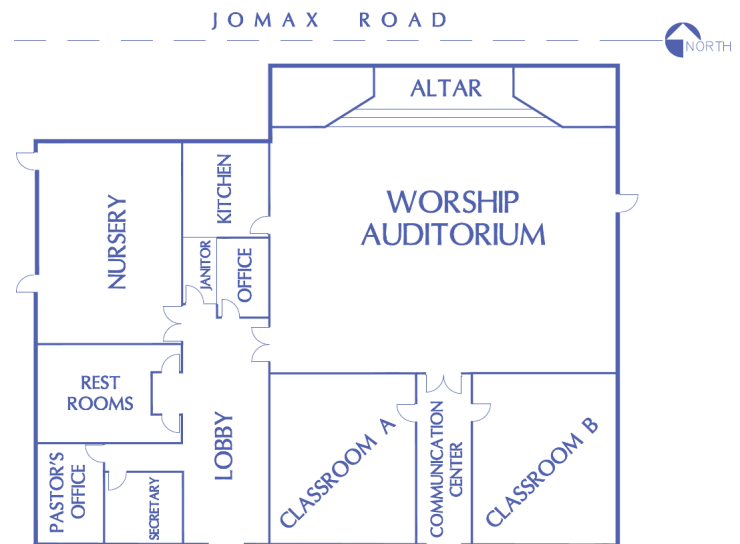
VISITOR INFORMATION

New to Cross of Glory? We are so glad you joined us today! We invite you to stay after the service to chat and join us for coffee time .

Would you like to learn more about us? We'd love to get to know you better as well. Connect with Cross of Glory by either:

- Using the **friendship register** at the end of each row to connect with us today.
- Emailing us at church.secretary@crossofglory.org

CHURCH MAP



FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult in Classroom A.
- **Children in Church Program:** Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. We encourage parents to guide their children through the service. We invite children to come forward for the Children's Message during the service. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!

Service of the Word and Lord's Supper

Opening Hymn: Cling Tightly to the Word of God

CWH 707



Hymn of praise, prayer, or reflection on the season of the church year.

We follow the advice of the Apostle Paul to "teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."

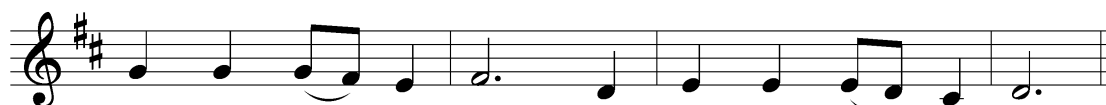
(Colossians 3:16)



1 Cling tight - ly to the Word of God and Christ's dis -
3 For just as God raised up his Son from death by
4 Be strong! Stand firm! Come, walk the path that saints be -
5 Know that his bod - y and his blood will feed your
6 Now fix your eyes on Je - sus Christ; "Come, fol - low



ci - ple be, for then, be - lov - ed, you will know the
his great might, so too, in Christ, we now may live as
fore you trod, with read - y feet to bring good news of
hun - gry soul like man - na in life's wil - der - ness, un -
me," says he. "De - ny your - self, take up your cross; come,



truth that sets you free, the truth that sets you free.
chil - dren of the light, as chil - dren of the light.
Christ, the peace of God, of Christ, the peace of God.
til you reach your goal, un - til you reach your goal.
lose your life for me, come, lose your life for me."

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955 Tune: Amanda Husberg, 1940–2021

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Tune: © 2005 Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

Greeting

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and his Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.



The greeting used by St. Paul perfectly summarizes Christianity.

Confession and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**



"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

Christ said to his disciples, "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven". The pastor speaks for God and announces God's forgiveness to those who made confession.



This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because Jesus is our victorious Savior.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

Prayer and Praise

(Sung by Congregation)

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

O taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless-ed are they who take
 ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e - ter - nal; it
 stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con -
 tin - ues for - ev - er. O taste and see that the
 Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Text: n/a

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer, b. 1949



The main thoughts of the day are collected or summarized in this short prayer.

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty God, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow him wherever he leads; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Paul was in grave danger as the crowd dragged him from the temple to kill him, but God did not leave him. The Roman command rescued him from the mob and took him to safety in the barracks.

²⁷When the seven days were nearly over, some Jews from the province of Asia saw Paul at the temple. They stirred up the whole crowd and seized him, ²⁸shouting, “Fellow Israelites, help us! This is the man who teaches everyone everywhere against our people and our law and this place. And besides, he has brought Greeks into the temple and defiled this holy place.” ²⁹(They had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with Paul and assumed that Paul had brought him into the temple.)

³⁰The whole city was aroused, and the people came running from all directions. Seizing Paul, they dragged him from the temple, and immediately the gates were shut.

³¹While they were trying to kill him, news reached the commander of the Roman troops that the whole city of Jerusalem was in an uproar. ³²He at once took some officers and soldiers and ran down to the crowd. When the rioters saw the commander and his soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.

³³The commander came up and arrested him and ordered him to be bound with two chains. Then he asked who he was and what he had done. ³⁴Some in the crowd shouted one thing and some another, and since the commander could not get at the truth because of the uproar, he ordered that Paul be taken into the barracks.

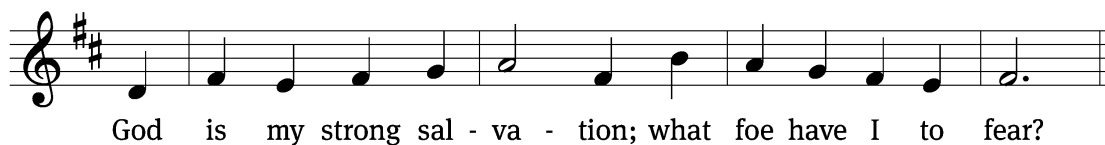
Psalm

Psalm 71A



The Book of Psalms was the Old Testament hymnbook, prayer and liturgy book. It was used by worshipers at the temple. Many of the Psalms are the basis for our hymns and part of our liturgy is taken from the Psalms. The word “Psalm” comes from the Greek and means “a song sung to the accompaniment of a stringed instrument.”

Refrain



Tone



In you, LORD, I have taken / refuge;
 let me never be / put to shame.
 In your righteousness, rescue me and de- / liver me;
 turn your ear to me and / save me.
 Be my rock of / refuge,
 to which I can / always go. *Refrain*
 Since my youth, God, you have / taught me,
 and to this day I declare your / marv'lous deeds.
 Even when I am / old and gray,
 do not forsake / me, my God,

till I declare your power to the next gener- / ation,
 your mighty acts to all who / are to come.
 Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
 and to the Holy / Spirit,
 as it was in the be- / ginning,
 is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Tune: Melchior Vulpius Setting: Hal H. Hopson Tune: Public domain
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The Children's Sermon

(All children are invited to sit in front with Pastor)



A verse from the holy scriptures is usually spoken in preparation for the reading of the Gospel which is read as the second reading or as part of the sermon.

Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. Alleluia.

Verse of the Day Response

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Jesus did not shirk his impending mission to pay the price of our sins; yet, Judas, one of Jesus' twelve disciples effortlessly betrayed his Savior for a pittance.

Gospel

Luke 22:21-23, 47-48

²¹But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. ²²The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed. But woe to that man who betrays him!" ²³They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this.

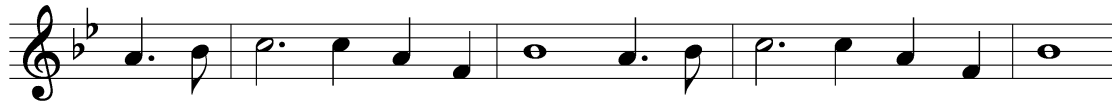
⁴⁷While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"



This hymn follows the theme of the readings and sets the stage for the sermon.



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling;
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
na - ked, come to thee for dress, help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure: cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778, alt. Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

**Fear says, 'I feel so betrayed.'
Faith says, 'God will never leave me.'**

2 Samuel 15:1–6, 10–13

¹In the course of time, Absalom provided himself with a chariot and horses and with fifty men to run ahead of him. ²He would get up early and stand by the side of the road leading to the city gate. Whenever anyone came with a complaint to be placed before the king for a decision, Absalom would call out to him, “What town are you from?” He would answer, “Your servant is from one of the tribes of Israel.” ³Then Absalom would say to him, “Look, your claims are valid and proper, but there is no representative of the king to hear you.” ⁴And Absalom would add, “If only I were appointed judge in the land! Then everyone who has a complaint or case could come to me and I would see that they receive justice.”

⁵Also, whenever anyone approached him to bow down before him, Absalom would reach out his hand, take hold of him and kiss him. ⁶Absalom behaved in this way toward all the Israelites who came to the king asking for justice, and so he stole the hearts of the people of Israel.

¹⁰Then Absalom sent secret messengers throughout the tribes of Israel to say, “As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpets, then say, ‘Absalom is king in Hebron.’”

¹¹Two hundred men from Jerusalem had accompanied Absalom. They had been invited as guests and went quite innocently, knowing nothing about the matter. ¹²While Absalom was offering sacrifices, he also sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David’s counselor, to come from Giloh, his hometown. And so the conspiracy gained strength, and Absalom’s following kept on increasing.

In the sermon the Pastor proclaims God's Word and applies that word to modern life and problems. He stresses both what God demands of us (the Law) and what God does for us through Jesus Christ (the Gospel).

¹³A messenger came and told David, “The hearts of the people of Israel are with Absalom.”



After hearing the word of God, the worshiper responds with this confession of faith.

The Nicene Creed was written in 325 A.D. to address false ideas about the divinity of Jesus Christ. That explains why the second article of the Nicene Creed is longer than its counterpart in the Apostles' Creed.

Nicene Creed

(Spoken in Unison)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Song of the Season: Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul Soloist sings Vs. 1 & 2;
 Congregation joins for Vs. 3 & 4



This is a hymn selected for the current church season that is generally new to our congregation, usually introduced first by a soloist, and repeated for several weeks to assist the congregation in learning the hymn.

*Dear refuge of my weary soul, on thee, when sorrows rise,
 on thee, when waves of trouble roll, my fainting hope relies.*

*To thee I tell each rising grief, for thou alone canst heal;
 thy Word can bring a sweet relief for every pain I feel.*

*But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail, I fear to call thee mine;
 the springs of comfort seem to fail, and all my hopes decline.
 Yet, gracious God, where shall I flee? Thou art my only trust;
 and still my soul would cleave to thee though prostrate in the dust.*

Congregation Sings:



3. Hast thou not bid me seek thy face, and
 4. Thy mer - cy seat is o - pen still; here



shall I seek in vain? And can the ear of
 let my soul re - treat; with hum - ble hope at -



sov' - reign grace be deaf when I com -
 tend thy will, and wait be - neath thy



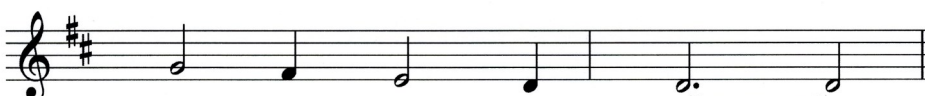
plain? No, still the ear of
 feet. Thy mer - cy seat is



sov - 'reign grace at - tends the mourn - er's prayer.
 o - pen still; here let my soul re - treat;



Oh, may I ev - er find ac - cess to
 with hum - ble hope at - tend thy will, and



breathe my sor - rows there.
 wait be - neath thy feet.



The gifts of God's people are a response to God's blessings.

The apostle Paul encouraged young Pastor Timothy: "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people".

(1 Timothy 2:1)

We speak to God as our Father as Jesus taught us. (Matthew 6)

The responsive reading from 1 Corinthians reminds the communicants of the necessity of the unity of faith and preparation required as we receive the body and blood of Christ.

Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

If you brought a monetary gift today for the work of the church, please place your offering in the receptacle at one of the two entrances to the sanctuary either before or after the service.

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

The Lord's Prayer

(Spoken in Unison)

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Holy Communion

The Preparation

(Spoken Responsively)

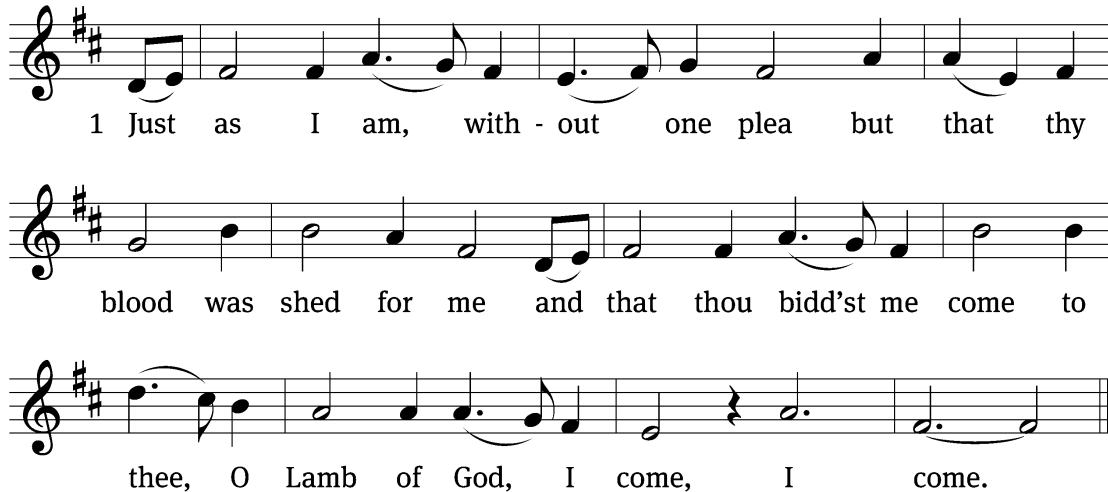
M: I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another,
C: so that there may be no divisions among you, and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. (1 Cor. 1:10)
M: Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ?
C: And is not the bread that we break, a participation in the body of Christ?
M: Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body:
C: for we all partake of the one loaf. (1 Cor 10:16-17)

M: Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

C: **A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.** (1 Cor 11:26-28)

Communion Canticle: Just as I Am, without One Plea

CWH 814



Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871 Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868 Text and tune: Public domain



As we approach the Lord's table, we are reminded that we are invited only because of the price Jesus paid on the cross.

Words of Institution

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me. ~

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



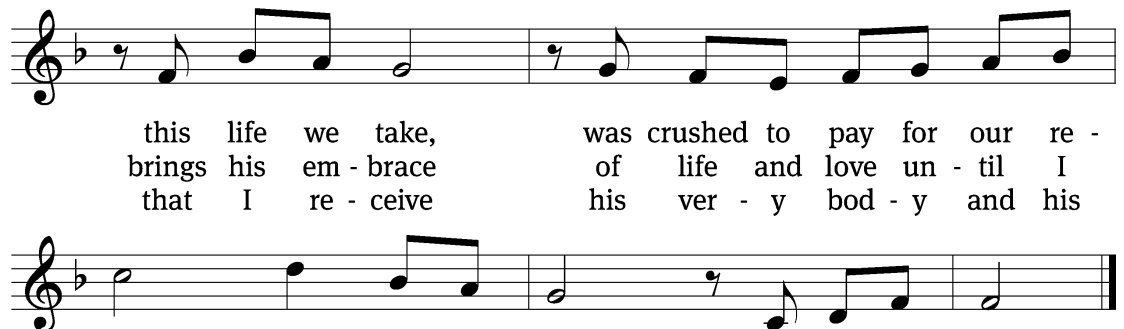
The pastor speaks the words which Jesus spoke when he instituted the Supper with his disciples in the Upper Room. With these words the bread and wine are consecrated, that is, set apart for God's use in this special meal.

Sung Response: What Is This Bread

CWH 665



This hymn of response perfectly describes the blessings of this Sacrament - forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.



this life we take, was crushed to pay for our re -
 brings his em - brace of life and love un - til I
 that I re - ceive his ver - y bod - y and his
 lease. O taste and see— the Lord is peace.
 sing! O taste and see— the Lord is King.
 blood. O taste and see— the Lord is good.

Text: Frederic W. Baue, b. 1946 Tune: Jean Neuhauser Baue, b. 1951
 Text and tune: © 1991 Fred and Jean Baue. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

Distribution of Sacrament

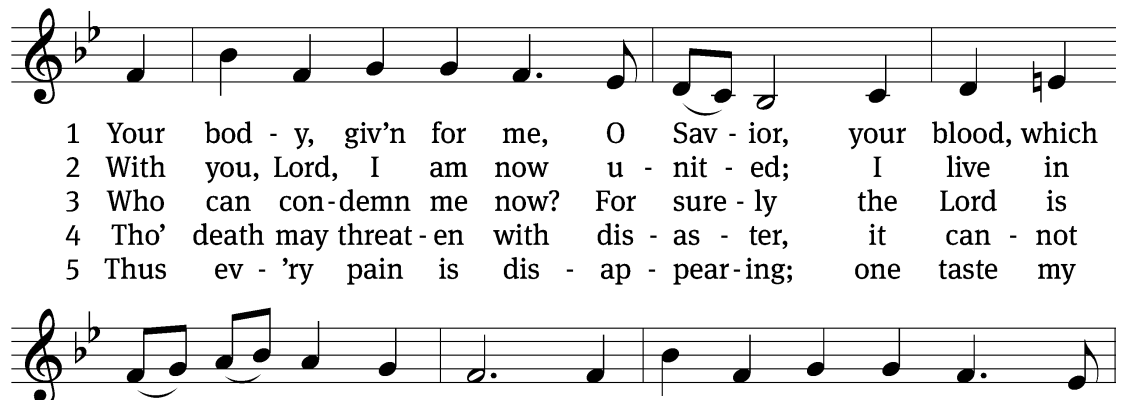
*We follow the Scriptural practice of **CLOSE COMMUNION**. If you have not communed here prior to today, you should speak with our pastor before the service. We would like to help you establish the unity which comes from a common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) before expressing that union together at the Lord's Table. It is not our intent to judge hearts, but to remain faithful to the truth of God's Word. Those who have established that connection as members of sister WELS or ELS congregations may register by checking the box in the attendance record book at the end of your row. Thank you for honoring our practice.*



This is a hymn sung by the congregation during the distribution of the Lord's Supper.

Distribution Hymn: Your Body, Given for Me, O Savior

CWH 671



1 Your bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, your blood, which
 2 With you, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in
 3 Who can con-demn me now? For sure - ly the Lord is
 4 Tho' death may threat - en with dis - as - ter, it can - not
 5 Thus ev - 'ry pain is dis - ap - pear - ing; one taste my
 you for me have shed— these are my life and strength for -
 you and you in me. In you my soul will be de -
 near, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and thus se -
 rob me of my cheer, for he who is of death the
 heart has come to know— of Je - sus and his love en -
 ev - er; by them my hun - gry soul is fed.
 light - ed, as joys in - crease and sor - rows flee.
 cure - ly with Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
 mas - ter with help and strength is al - ways near.
 dear - ing, the taste that sweet - ens ev - 'ry woe.

Refrain

O Je - sus, may your bod - y and your blood
be for my soul the high - est good.

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754, abr.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2–4): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Matthew Carver, b. 1977, alt.
Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, Hamburg, 1690, alt
Text (sts. 1, Ref, 2–4): © 1941 Concordia Publishing House; (st. 5): © 2012 Matthew Carver. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Tune: Public domain

Song of Simeon *Nunc Dimittis*

In peace, Lord, in peace, you let your
ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your
word. For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which
you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple
Is - ra - el. In peace, in peace.



The Nunc Dimittis ("now dismiss") is also known as the "Song of Simeon" (Luke 2: 29–32). Through God's Word and Sacrament, we too have seen Christ, the Messiah. Like aged Simeon who held the Christ-child in his arms as God had promised, we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.

Closing Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



The **Aaronic Blessing** is the blessing that Aaron and his sons were to speak over the people of Israel, recorded in Numbers 6:23–27. The pastor offers the same blessing to the congregation as they are about to conclude their worship.

Blessing

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

CWH 927

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for the gos - pel's
joy and peace. Let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion
tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound! Ev - er faith - ful,
O re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt. Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879 Text and tune: Public domain

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Personal Prayers for Communion

Before Communing

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communing

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Ways To Serve

Worship Volunteers	September 3rd	September 10th	September 17th
Counters	Nancy Murphy Harry Novak	Judy Sasse Susie Cornell	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa
Communion	Shannon		Sharon
Ushers	Cody Hall Joel Ditter	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Titus Patterson Grant Stern	Pedro Contreras Tanner Plizuweit Michael Radue Guy Robertson
Sunday Refreshments	Stacey Aguilar Angela Hall Karen Goelzer	Kathy Collyard Andrea Semmann	Ally Kelley Sharon Wilson
A/V	Kelly Simpson Pedro Contreras	Titus Patterson Isaac Patterson	Rene Koutia Gus Koutia

Weekly QR Code

Please check your email or use this QR code for the weekly newsletter



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

For members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers and ask God to give strength, comfort and courage to them and their families.

Grams Family as they mourn the death of Bill.

Loiselle Family as they mourn the death of Marie.

Pastor Jon Bergemann as he deliberates the call extended to him by Cross of Glory.

James family, as they mourn the death of Violet.

Norm Voigt, for a recent hospitalization due to complications from leukemia.

MILITARY

E4 Specialist Alice Henderson, granddaughter of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at San Antonio, TX Ft. Sam Houston Army base in Medical Institute of Surgery Research: Burn Unit.

E6 Specialist Staff Sgt. Austin Seignious, grandson-to-be of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at El Paso, TX Ft. Bliss Army Base.

Major JD Larson, son of John & Chi Larson, based at Kirkland AFB in New Mexico.

Sara (Dan) McArdle, daughter of Martha (Scott) Wofford, Air Force Pilot, based in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Ben Weyer, serving in the military, at El Paso, TX



Cross of Glory was planted by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in March 1998 so that with the Gospel of Jesus she can strengthen the faith of her members and reach out into the community with the free gift of salvation. First worship services began at Easter 1999; the dedication of our Ministry Center at Easter, 2005. Our synod's name reflects that her founders began in the state of Wisconsin. As a WELS church we still hold to the teachings of the Bible restored in the Reformation era. We are...

- a Christ-preaching church. We preach that Jesus is true God, the Son of God who became man, so that through his perfect life and innocent death, He is the prophesied "Lamb of God" who has taken away the sin of the world.
- a Bible-believing church. We teach that the Bible is the verbally inspired, inerrant Word of God, the only authority for Christian faith and life. We aim to teach God's Word in all its truth and simplicity.
- an evangelical church. We trust the Bible's claim that God saves people through the power of the Gospel in the Word and Sacraments. The Gospel is the Good News (the Evangel) about Jesus' saving work. The WELS has congregations throughout the USA and around the world to share the Evangel, the Bible's primary message, with all people.
- a people-caring church. That we're all sinners equally saved by Jesus' substitutionary work strips away human judgments and egos. This truth also empowers us to live Jesus' love for all people by offering friendship, support, and Biblical counseling. Our church family cares about other people-- including you.

Our Preschool & Elementary School exists to help parents in their God-given duty of teaching the Faith to their children: an important aspect of our Church's plan to grow a comprehensive womb-to tomb ministry that serves souls for eternity.